



Commission on Child Care Meeting Summary March 15, 2017

Members Present: Lindsey Allard Agnamba, Michelle Belski, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, L'Ornya Bowie, Hashan Chowdhury, Diana Holzberger, Brigid Howe, Jessica Kelley, Edward Krauze, Sybil Philip, Laura Seminario-Thornton, Claudia Simmons, Greg Smith, Lynn Sobolov, Greg Stevens, and Dr. Mayme Williams

Members Absent: Dr. Barbara Andrews, Pamela Dunn, Carl Eggleston, Liz Habberman (for Blaise DeFazio), Yvonne Iscandari, Claudia Simmons, Barbara Warman and Lara Woodruff

Guests Present: Crystal Ruiz, Monica Ortiz and Michael Subin

Staff Present: Erin Stillwell (DHHS) and Sarah Wilch-Spamer (DHHS)

Ed Krauze, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Monica Ortiz, Policy Officer, Early Care and Education

Highlights of the MC Early Care and Education Strategic Plan

- Plan made up of 5 goals and 18 steps
- Distributed "Investments in Our Future: Priorities for FY 17 and FY18" (priorities that can be currently considers w/o additional funding)
- Goal 5: Leadership and Finances includes unique stakeholders such as members of the business community; opportunity for new partnerships
- Discussion around the topic of "what is quality"—will continue to use Excels as the quality indicator (strategy 1)
- Question: With the different options outlined in the OLO Pre-K report and how many of these are aligned with the SP priorities? Answer: Trying to align with the information coming in from other jurisdictions, but are separate from MCPS funding. Do you go universal or targeted? Physical plant (classroom) are limited so will need to be a mixed delivery system. As far as staffing & personnel, will need to find high quality teachers. Transportation also must be considered.
- Question: How do you see the CCC involved in the implementation of the SP? Answer: Need to see it as a living document and need to be continuously reviewed and discussed.
- Question about S9. Answer: Sees the relationship with CUPF improving and trying to modernize the process and work to create a common application.

Minutes: Review of meeting minutes from February 15, 2017

ACTION: Meeting minutes were approved with no changes; all in favor

Other Commission Business:

Crystal Ruiz, Councilmember Hans Riemer's Office

Crystal Ruiz, from Councilmember Riemer's Office, approached the CCC to share a proposal for Head Start and Pre-K Expansion. Idea is to expand the non-title one schools to create full day head start; 248 kids to be served at the cost of \$3 million; trying to provide quality education to targeted populations of kids (living below 100% and 200% of the federal poverty line); limited number of quality care programs in these areas; Council member Riemer would like to spend \$20 million over 4 years to increase quality programs for 4 year olds; ask is to have the CCC support Councilmember Riemer's proposal

Confirmation of Slate for April 2017 Election

Current nominations: Greg Smith for Chair, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta for Vice Chair

ACTION: Confirmed the slate for May 2017 election: Greg Smith for Chair and Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta for Vice Chair

Confirmation of Questions for CE Annual Meeting with BCC Scheduled for March 21, 2017

ACTION: Questions reviewed and confirmed by CCC

Review and Discussion of CCC's Draft letter to the CC re. universal pre-k

ACTION: all in favor of accepting draft letter as written

Updates

- **WPA/Subsidy** (Erin for Yvonne Iscandari):
 - As of 3/15/17: 375 families and 573 children on the waitlist
 - As of 2/17: 384 families and 576 children on WPA
 - As of 3/1/17: Total expenditure is \$2,221,746
 - As of 3/15/17: 366 children and 279 families were issued supplemental vouchers
 - WPA converted to a new computer system (EICM) effective 3/13/17; this system will allow payment process to be streamlined.
- **Early Childhood Coordinating Council** (Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta)
 - No report as ECCC as meeting was cancelled due to snow on 3-15-17

Announcements

Brigid Howe provided a MMF Update: learning gathering on 3-29-17 speakers will be BB Otero and Miriam Calderon; other learning gatherings scheduled for May 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm